

**COMMITTEE of the WHOLE COMMITTEE
MAY 27, 2014**

The Committee of the Whole met on Tuesday, May 27, 2014 in the Committee Room, located on the second floor of the Administration Building, beginning at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Jeffcoat, Chairman, presided.

Members Attending:

Johnny Jeffcoat, Chairman
James E. Kinard, Jr.
M. Kent Collins
Bobby C. Keisler

M. Todd Cullum, V Chairman
Frank J. Townsend, III
Debra B. Summers
K. Brad Matthews

Members Absent: * William B. Banning, Sr.

*Mr. Banning was absent due to illness.

Also attending: Joe Mergo, III, County Administrator; Chris Folsom, Deputy County Administrator; Randy Poston, Chief Financial Officer; Jeff Anderson, County Attorney; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and television stations, newspapers, posted on the County of Lexington website and bulletin board located in the lobby of the Lexington County Administration Building.

Resolution R14-1 - Supports and Endorses the Completion of the United Midlands Multimodal Corridor Improvements Project - Joe Mergo, County Administrator - Mr. Mergo presented a resolution for the United Midlands Multimodal Corridor Improvement Project as part of the State Infrastructure Bank application process. He said to his knowledge this is the first time it has ever been done in the Midlands to submit a joint resolution. The joint resolution is between Lexington County, Columbia Metropolitan Airport, Richland County and the City of Columbia in partnership with the Central Midlands Council of Governments and the University of South Carolina to support and encourage the South Carolina Department of Transportation to secure funding for the corridor improvement project. Mr. Mergo reported the total project cost was \$357,965,486 and the requested assistance amount was \$335,802,964 which is made up of the five following projects: 1) Airport Connector Phase II - \$112,400,200; 2) Assembly Street - \$145,314,000; 3) Greene Street - \$36,359,470; 4) Huger - \$46,275,160; and 5) Williams Street - \$17,616,955. If approved by Council, he reported they would schedule a joint signing day with the mayor and both County Council Chairmen at the Convention Center which was one of the last regional projects. Mr. Mergo reported once we get this approved and signed the next step would be submission to SCDOT for review along with letters of support.

A motion was made by Ms. Summers, seconded by Mr. Kinard to recommend full Council approve signing Resolution R14-1.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Ms. Summers
	Mr. Kinard	Mr. Townsend
	Mr. Collins	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Matthews	Mr. Cullum

Ordinance 14-05 - An Ordinance Enacted Pursuant to the Capital Project Sales Tax Act, Title 4, Chapter 10, Article 3 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as Amended, Providing for the Imposition of a One Percent Sales and Use Tax and the Authorization of General Obligation Bonds Upon Referendum Approval, the Form of the Ballot to be Used in Connection Therewith, and Other Matters Relating Thereto - Chairman Jeffcoat opened discussion for Ordinance 14-05 an Ordinance Enacted Pursuant to the Capital Project Sales Tax Act. He said the ordinance will give the citizens of Lexington County an opportunity to add a one-cent sales tax for eight years giving the County an opportunity to get some much needed projects done such as roads, water and sewer, stormwater, and other necessary projects that the County has no funding. The State has no funding as indicated by the cuts in the Local Government Funding and the federal government says they have no money to fix roads. Mr. Jeffcoat said the projects will be listed on the ballot for citizens to say yes they would like these things fixed. He said this Council will not be able to change those projects and at the end of eight years if the people decide they want to continue they can and if they do not then the tax goes off, that is the law. Mr. Jeffcoat said that if the vote is no then it will be business as usual, and we are going to do the same identical thing we have done for the past 18 years that he has been on Council and that is we are going to do the very best we can do with no money to do it. He said we do not need to be slammed for giving the citizens the opportunity to vote yes or no to fund these projects. The Committee commented on calls they have received from citizens.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinard, seconded by Ms. Summers, to recommend full Council approve Ordinance 14-05.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Kinard
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Townsend
	Mr. Collins	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Matthews	Mr. Cullum

Meeting of March 25, 2014 - Approval of Minutes - A motion was made by Ms. Summers, seconded by Mr. Townsend to approve the March 25, 2014 minutes as submitted.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Ms. Summers
	Mr. Townsend	Mr. Kinard
	Mr. Collins	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Matthews	Mr. Cullum

Meeting of April 8, 2014 - Approval of Minutes - A motion was made by Mr. Kinard, seconded by Ms. Summers to approve the April 8, 2014 minutes as submitted.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Kinard
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Ms. Summers	Mr. Townsend
Mr. Collins	Mr. Keisler
Mr. Matthews	Mr. Cullum

Executive Session - A motion was made by Ms. Summers, seconded by Mr. Collins to go into Executive Session to discuss two contractual matters.

In Favor:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Ms. Summers
	Mr. Collins	Mr. Kinard
	Mr. Townsend	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Matthews	Mr. Cullum

Mr. Jeffcoat reported out of Executive Session with no motions to be considered.

Old Business/New Business - None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Busbee
Assistant to the Clerk

Johnny W. Jeffcoat
Chairman

Diana W. Burnett
Clerk